Template 1.2a
Learning record (example)

Name of activity:	Local authority course on ICT in Mathematics
Category:	Off-job/formal
Date:	October 2004

Description of Activity

What did I do? (give a short narrative description)

I attended a one-day course organised by the Local Authority on using ICT in supporting children's work in Mathematics. Although I have access to a cluster of computers in school, and a whiteboard, I can only use them at certain times of the week. I have only one computer in my classroom and I was interested in ways of managing this so that I made best use of it for the children. The course gave an overview of some new software available and also discussed how its use might be integrated into Primary Mathematics teaching. A follow-up day was intended for some weeks later to discuss our successes and failures in putting into practice some of the ideas we had been introduced to on the course.

Reflection on Learning

What did I learn from the activity?

How to use graphical software – improving my technical skills

Being really clear about the purpose of using ICT in my teaching

Organising my class-time so that I could make best use of the cluster of computers

Having clear instructions available for children, explaining how to use the software

Considering how collaborative work can be supported around the computer

Application to work

How was I able to apply what I learned to my own work?

I learned how to use this new software but I needed to practise its use away from the children until I felt more confident. However, I felt that I needed much more practice.

Application to work (continued …)

Managing one computer in the classroom was a real concern. In an activity about measurement, I was able to use a graphical program to present the results in a bar or pie chart and then discuss the implications with the class. This can be generated very quickly and efficiently and easily modified if necessary.

I prepared some simple cards explaining how to use the software which children could use when working on their own or in groups when I had access to more computers.